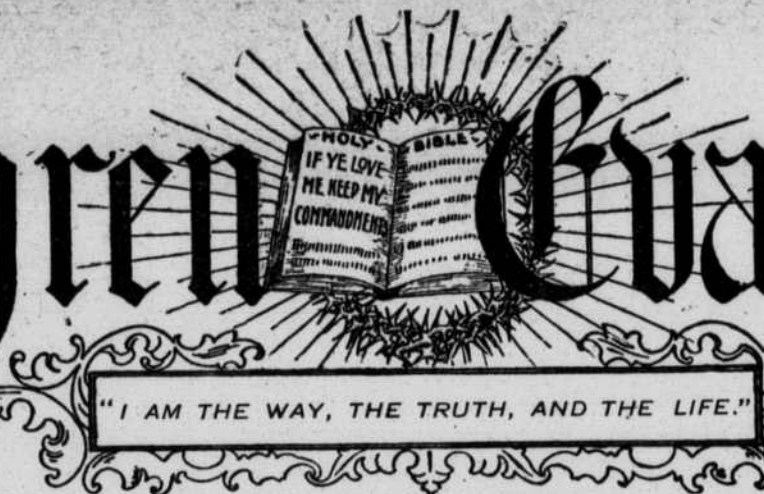


# Brethren Evangelist



"I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE."

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## Brethren Evangelist.

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## Notes and Comments.

THIS paper is one day late, next week will be on time.

NEXT week will appear an article by Brother Rensch on the "Proper Organization of a Church," and one by brother J. A. Miller on the "Holy Ghost."

BROTHER M. C. Kimmel and his mother died and were buried on last Friday. They were members of the Bear Creek congregation, and the local, as well as the church at large will greatly miss these faithful servants. It is not often that mother and son die and are buried together. Obituary notice will appear later.

THERE are few people who fully appreciate the value of a church paper in the home. An *exchange* says: "It is astounding that some pastors, and the people generally, are so little interested in the circulation of a worthy denominational paper. Pastors stand sadly in their own light when they fail to encourage the members of their churches to take a good denominational paper. It is simply impossible for church people to be in the largest degree useful to their churches, to their denomination and to the cause of Christ at large, if they do not take a religious paper. There is no investment of money which will bring larger returns for the church."

IN this number brother Martin Shively begins a series of articles on the subject of Christian Baptism. The introductory article, on the "Authority of the Scriptures" appeared some time ago. We suggest that our people file these papers as they are not only good reading matter, but will be very valuable for reference to those who need light on this important subject, and who does not need it?

A SERMON by D. C. Moomaw, a reply to Brother Wampler by B. C. Moomaw, The Necessity and Design of Christian Baptism, by Martin Shively. How to Win Souls, by J. R. Miller. The Law and Salvation, by J. M. Bowman. Wise Application of Power, by J. D. McFaden, together with church news, and other matter, make up this paper, and yet it costs you but *three cents*.

WE quote the following from the report of the committee on Education, at our last conference: "That we as a body set apart the third Sabbath in January 1896 to be known as Ashland College Day, when the pastors of the several churches shall preach special sermons on educational topics, and take a free will offering for the University to be applied until otherwise ordered, to the salary of the Dean of the Theological Department." Why not make this a permanent day in the Brethren church, have programs printed, and unite the whole church with its various organizations, the S. S., the K. C., and S. S. C. E., in the interests of Education Day. What say you readers? We would however suggest a change of date from January to some other.

The *Congregationalist* quotes: "The Methodists, they pick them out of the gutter; and the Baptists, they washes them; and the Congregationalists, they starches them;" and adds, "Brethren of the Pilgrim polity, can we ever be content with being considered a religious starch factory?" The *Interior* adds: "And what do the Presbyterians do? Mostly take the starch out of them."

How shall we secure a better attendance at our church services? is a question that confronts many a pastor. Different methods are resorted to with a view of increasing the attendance at church, and strange to say there are those who imagine that *any* method is legitimate that will bring people to church. This is a mistake. The announcement of sensational topics for pulpit treatment has been tried time and again, but in the end it will prove a failure. The one thing above all others that draws people, is Jesus Christ, and the minister who holds up Jesus to his people, will generally have hearers, if not so many as the sensational minister, he will hold them longer and do them more good. Jesus said: "If I be lifted up I will draw all men unto me." This is to-day the drawing power in the world, and the church that lifts up Jesus will have the greatest number of genuine conversions and accomplish the greatest good in the world. On the subject of sensational preaching the *Presbyterian* says: "Fanciful topics for sermons seem to be losing their drawing power. People are beginning to see through this thin gauze of sensational attraction. A revolution against this sort of pulpit advertising appears to have set in. The Saturday dailies are not scanned as once they were for grotesque subjects for Sunday entertainment. Thinking persons are coming more and more to discount this way of parading ministerial wares, and are growing weary of this method of filling the pews. The baits thus thrown out to catch floating hearers, while nibbled at here and there, are not seized with the avidity and hunger of former years. Experience is opening the eyes of many, and they are getting to realize that strong preachers have no need for this kind of clap-trap, and that weak ministers cannot hold audiences drawn by the curiosity of enticing subjects."

A MAN by blowing his own horn may deceive the people for a time, but sooner or later they are sure to discover that it is only wind.